

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows. A marked-up version entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" is attached.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B1
This is a Divisional Application of United States Patent Application No. 09/224,014, now U.S. Patent No. 6,312,682, filed on December 28, 1998, which is a Continuing Application of PCT/GB97/02857, filed on October 17, 1997 and claiming priority to Great Britain Patent Application No. 9621680.9, filed on October 17, 1996, and Great Britain Patent Application No. 9624457.9, filed on November 25, 1996.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

B2
1. ~~20~~. (Amended) An infection and transduction competent, lentivirus-based retroviral vector particle comprising a genome, gag, pol, an envelope protein, and optionally one or more RRE-type sequences, wherein the particle lacks all functional lentiviral auxiliary gene products.

2. ~~21~~. (Amended) An infection and transduction competent, lentivirus-based retroviral vector particle comprising a genome, gag, pol, an envelope protein and one or more RRE-type sequences, wherein the particle lacks all functional lentiviral auxiliary gene products.

B3
10. ~~29~~. (Amended) A retroviral vector production system for producing the infection and transduction competent, lentivirus-based retroviral vector particle according to claim ~~20~~¹, which system comprises nucleic acid sequence(s) encoding the genome of the retroviral vector particle, gag, pol, and an envelope protein, and optionally comprising one or more RRE-type sequences, wherein all functional lentiviral auxiliary proteins are absent from the retroviral particle.

11. ~~30~~. (Amended) A retroviral vector production system for producing infection and transduction competent, lentivirus-based vector particle according to claim ~~21~~², which system comprises nucleic acid sequence(s) encoding the genome of the vector particle, gag, pol, and an